



Docket No.: R2184.0260/P260
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hirobumi Nishida

Application No.: 10/649,901

Confirmation No.:

Filed: August 28, 2003

Art Unit: N/A

For: IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE
ESTIMATING BLACK CHARACTER
COLOR AND GROUND COLOR
ACCORDING TO CHARACTER-AREA
PIXELS CLASSIFIED INTO TWO
CLASSES

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the U.S. filing date (37 CFR 1.97(b)(1)).

Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. in the attached form PTO/SB/08 are not supplied because the application was filed after June 30, 2003.

The Examiner's attention is further directed to the following applications:
09/627,404 filed July 27, 2000; 09/414,349 filed October 7, 1999; 07/798,196 filed
November 26, 1991 (now abandoned).

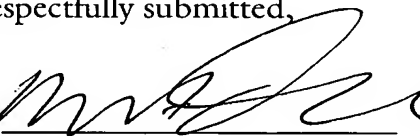
In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. R2184.0260/P260. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: November 25, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/649,901-Conf. #5611
				Filing Date	August 28, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Hirobumi Nishida
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	R2184.0260/P260
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA*	US 2003/0179409 A1	09-25-2003	Nishida	
	AB*	US 2002/0071131 A1	06-13-2002	Nishida	
	AC*	US 6,424,746 B1	07-23-2002	Nishida	
	AD*	US 6,041,138	03-21-2000	Nishida	
	AE*	US 5,497,432	03-05-1996	Nishida	
	AF*	US 5,313,528	05-17-1994	Nishida	
	AG*	US 5,317,649	05-31-1994	Nishida	
	AH*	US 5,204,915	04-20-1993	Nishida	
	AI*	US 5,067,165	11-19-1991	Nishida	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.